Times' dated 26.6.2001, raising serious doubts on the actual performance and capability of the prestigious Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, alongwith contribution of the Institute during the last few years to justify continuance of an annual grant of Rs. 350 crores; and

(c) the steps taken to evaluate its performance / utility and to revamp the Institute for fulfilling its assigned role of providing direction in policy formulation on sensitive security issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Two cases mentioned are under investigation. In the case of Smt. Savita Pande, the individual has since left the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA). In the case of Smt. Sanjana Joshi, the Institute has initiated action to scrutinize the allegations of plagarism and action will be taken in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Institute.

The annual grant received by the IDSA is in the region of Rs. 3 crores. Regular reviews are carried out periodically of the performance of the Institute and its personnel by its Director as well as by the Executive Council of the IDSA. A review committee headed by Shri N.N. Vohra, former Defence Secretary is currently finalizing the report on the functioning of the IDSA with the view to making the IDSA a yet more efficient and effective research institute.

**Recommendations of Joshi Committee**

2619. SHRI R.P GOENKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army Headquarters has drawn up a fresh policy framework to revamp the Army, as reportedly suggested by the Lt. General Pankaj Joshi Committee; and

(b) if so, the major recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) A Committee under the chairman- ship of Lt. Gen. Pankaj Joshi was ordered by Army Headquarters in October, 2000 to examine and review important aspects pertaining to the Officers' cadre of the Army.

(b) The report of the Committee is under consideration of Army Headquarters.

**Operation Sadbhavana Carried out by Defence Services**

2620. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Operation Sadbhavana is carried out by the defence services in Jammu and Kashmir;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number and location of the schools revived and the number of students undergoing studies in these schools;

(c) whether Government propose to cover higner education also under this programme; and

(d) the expenditure incurred so far on the Operation Sadbhavana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (d) The schemes under Operation Sadbhavana in Jammu and Kashmir encompass small scale developmental and community projects undertaken by the armed forces, for the benefit of civilians, in areas where troops are deployed to combat terrorism and insurgency and are generally in the fields of education, health care, adult literacy, vocational training and integrated development of adopted villages.

During the last 3 years from 1998-1999 to 2000-2001, Rs. 16 crores were allotted for the purpose by the MHA under the J&K Action Plan (1998).

Under the scheme a total of 15 new schools have been constructed and 21 schools have been revived. 6630 students were undergoing studies in these schools. The details are as under:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) *Leh District* | | |
| (i) | Newly constructed schools | 04 |
| (ii) | Total students studying in the newly constructed schools | 520 |
| (b) *Kargil District* | | |
| (i) | Newly constructed schools | 08 |
| (ii) | Schools revived | 02 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the newly constructed and revived schools | 1500 (approximately) |
| (c) *Kashmir Valley* | | |
| (i) | Newly constructed schools | 01 |
| (ii) | Schools revived | 06 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the constructed and revived schools | 1350 (approximately) |
| (d) *Udhampur District* | | |
| (i) | Newly constructed schools | 01 |
| (ii) | Schools revived | 04 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the newly constructed and revived schools | 750 (approximately) |

(e) *Doda District*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Newly constructed schools | 01 |
| (ii) | Schools revived | 04 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the newly constructed and revived schools | 815 (approximately) |

(f) *Punch District*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Schools revived | 02 |
| (ii) | Misc assistance (Upgradation of facilities) | 01 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the revived/assisted schools | 500 (approximately) |

(g) *Rajouri District*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) | Schools revived | 03 |
| (ii) | Misc assistance (Upgradation of facilities) | 05 |
| (iii) | Total students studying in the revived/assisted schools | 1200 (approximately) |

There is no proposal to include higher education under Operation Sadbhavana.

**Arms Purchase**

2621. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India despite its impoverished conditions is one of the biggest purchases of arms; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) Modernised weapons and weapon systems are inducted into our Armed Forces keeping in view the perceptions and the prevailing strategic environment as also emerging technologies. The amount spent on purchase of arms for our defence force is significantly less as compared to several other countries in terms of per capita expenditure or as a proportion of GDP or as a component of total government expenditure.

**Setting up of an Institute on Defence Strategies in Pune**

2622. SHRI RAJU PAMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (UGC) is planning to set up an Institute on Defence Strategies in Pune;